HP Prime Exam Modes

Classroom control during exams is critical to ensuring students are using only permitted tools to complete evaluations. HP Prime provides that control.

“The functions and features of the HP Prime calculator can be temporarily restricted for examination purposes. The process of restricting one or more HP Prime calculators for an examination is referred to as exam mode configuration.

Using Connectivity Kit, you can define one or more exam-mode configurations, start a configuration on a connected HP Prime calculator, start the same exam-mode configuration on all wirelessly connected HP Prime calculators, and stop an exam mode configuration on one or more connected HP Prime calculators.”

- HP Connectivity Kit User Guide
Using Exam Modes

Basic Mode is pre-configured on HP Prime
Easily block user-created content; erase exam-entered content:

1. Press \[ \text{On} + \text{Esc} \] to access settings
2. Press \[ \text{Start} \] to begin Exam mode
3. Slide the lock icon to the right to confirm

You are about to start "Basic Mode".
• Memory will be hidden
To exit, do one of the following:
• Connect calculator to USB

Swipe the icon to start

Figure 1 Basic Exam Mode screen
**Creating Exam Modes**

Teachers can easily pre-configure Exam Modes on their PC. By following these steps, nearly any feature can be disabled.

1. Run HP Connectivity Kit
2. Click the Add icon and choose Exam Mode
3. Enter a name for the Custom Exam Mode
4. Select preferred options (see Appendix A)
5. Save your configuration
6. Exam modes can be transferred to calculators via USB or Wireless (sold separately)

**Enhanced-security options:**

- Choose “Protect Exam Mode” to prevent editing
- Select “Keep and Restore” from the “Memory” menu to prevent information entering or leaving an exam
- Select “Blink LED” for easier monitoring of exam mode
- Enable “Security Code” to prompt for an additional layer of security at exam time

![Protect Exam Mode](image)

**Figure 2 High-stakes exam mode**
Using Custom Exam Modes

**HP Prime calculator**

1. Press \( \text{On} + \text{Esc} \) to access settings
2. Select exam from "Configuration" list
3. Press \( \text{Start} \) to begin Exam mode
4. Slide the lock icon to confirm
5. Enter security code if prompted

You are about to start "Sample".
- Memory: Keep and restore

To exit, do one of the following:
- Connect to other device with USB
- Wait for 15 minute timeout

Swipe the icon to start
**HP Proctor Mode**

1. Start HP Connectivity Kit
2. Select Exam Mode from Content Pane and select “Proctor Mode”
3. Click the “Start” button in the Proctor Mode pane
4. Enter a security code if prompted/desired
5. Connected devices will now be automatically placed in to the correct exam mode
HP Wireless Kit

Start an exam mode with two clicks

1. In the Connectivity Kit, right click the exam mode

   ![Connection Kit with exam mode](image)

   - **Open**
   - **Proctor Mode**
   - **Start**
   - **Stop**
   - **Delete**
   - **Send**

2. Click Start

   ![Multiple students in Exam Mode](image)

3. Figure 3 Multiple students in Exam Mode
Proctoring Exams

Proctoring an exam is simple when using HP Prime’s Exam Mode. The LED lights on the top of each calculator blink a cryptographically unique pattern based on the Exam Mode configuration. This pattern will be the same for all HP Prime calculators using the configuration.

Figure 4 Exam mode lights blinking a unique sequence

Proctoring best practices

Recommendations to make exam day as simple and secure as possible:

- Pre-define exam mode using the enhanced security options:
  1. Choose “Protect Exam Mode” to prevent editing
  2. Select “Keep and Restore” from the “Memory” menu to prevent information entering or leaving an exam
  3. Select “Blink LED” for easier monitoring of exam mode
  4. Enable “Security Code” to prompt for an additional layer of security at exam time

- Use HP Proctor mode on a PC in the exam room to easily place calculators into the correct exam mode

- Encourage use of a security code on exam day
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: Why are there 3 LEDs?
A: Having only one blinking LED does not provide assurance that the calculator is in the correct exam configuration. Three LEDs blinking a unique, sequential code provide greater security.

Q: Which exam mode should I choose?
A: The Basic Exam Mode is excellent for a quick exam or quiz but lacks the ability to customize and remove specific functionality. If you require certain features to be disabled or simply want even stronger security, the Custom Exam Mode is a good choice.

Q: How do I exit exam mode?
A: Exam mode can be ended by connecting the calculator to a PC/Mac or to another HP Prime calculator.

Q: Can students replicate the light pattern of an exam mode?
A: When using the multiple layers of security available, there is not a way for students to anticipate the light pattern on exam day.

Q: What is the range of duration for exams?
A: Exams can be set from 15 minutes to 8 hours in length; Basic mode has no time limit and is exited via USB connection.

Q: What happens if the battery is removed or the firmware updated?
A: Exam mode is unaffected.

Q: Can exam mode be saved on student calculators for recurring exams?
A: Yes, configurations can be created by/shared with students and can be transferred between calculators.
Appendix A: Limiting Functionality

The following features can be disabled using the Custom Exam Mode:

- Default System Applications
- User Created Applications
- Physics
- Help
- Units
- Matrices
- Complex Numbers
- CAS
- USB communication
- Notes and Programs (existing and newly created)
- Mathematical functions related to:
  - Numbers (Floor, Ceiling, etc.)
  - Arithmetic (Max, Min, etc.)
  - Trigonometry (Secant, Cotangent, etc.)
  - Hyperbolic (Sine, Cosine, etc.)
  - Probability (Normal, Binomial, etc.)
  - Lists (Concatenation, Sorting, etc.)
  - Matrices (Create, Rank, etc.)